GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4271
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2002
FOREIGN STUDENS ENROLLED IN INDIAN UNIVERSITIES
RATTAN LAL KATARIA;T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign students enrolled in various Indian universities during the last three years;

(b) the number of Indian students enrolled in various universities of the various countries during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the enrolment of the foreign students in the Indian universities is less than enrolment of the Indian students in the foreign universities;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to attract the foreign students in Indian universities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) As per information available with Association of Indian Universitiesthe number of foreign students enrolled in various universities is 5323 in 1998 - 99, 6988 in 1999 - 2000 and 7791 in 2000-2001.

(b) According to the available data, 6918 students went abroad for higher studies during the year 1998-99. According to another report, 66,836 Indian students were enrolled in Colleges and Universities of the United States of America for higher studies, during 2001-2002.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The increase in the number of enrolment of Indian students in foreign universities has taken place in the wake of economic and financial reforms set in motion by the Government since 1991, which has led to an increase in the mobility of students across national boundaries. Besides, the increasing presence of foreign educational institutions in India has also contributed to the rising trend.

(e) In order to attract more foreign students to Indian universities, University Grants Commission hasallowed 15% supernumerary seats in all institutions for foreign / NRI students. In addition, Government has also set up a Committee on Promotion of Indian Education Abroad (COPIE) whichwill generate ideas and identify programmes and areas for promotion of Indian Education abroad and chalk out strategy for implementing the same. The United States Educational Foundation in India (USEFI) has also been asked to suggest a strategy for attracting foreign students to India.